

Weekly Letter From Washington, D. C.

BY CONGRESSMAN HARRIS ELLSWORTH

Washington, D. C., October 30—As this is written, the official status of the proposal to construct an alumina from-clay plant in the Northwest is obscure. WPB's Production Executive Committee which, in WPB is "the works," has now withdrawn its previous order withholding permission to build the plants. That is the way the statement from PEC reads. However, it goes on to say that the plants (one in South Carolina, one in Wyoming and one in the Northwest) may be built providing they do not require in their building, critical materials or essential manpower.

The manpower commission takes an interesting position in the matter following the PEC action. WMC says, in effect, "We have nothing further to say about it—local interests in the Northwest declared at previous hearings on the subject that they had names and addresses of more than enough available and non-essential labor to proceed with plant construction. So far as we are concerned, let them go ahead—that is no concern of ours." In other words, they seem to think that the bluff, if that is the proper word, of some Oregon and Washington communities has been called. To my way of thinking there was no bluff about it. The location of the plant has not yet been determined, but I am sure that sufficient manpower can be obtained at any one of the several possible locations mentioned.

The "no critical materials" catch in the WPB grudging permission to build the alumina-from-clay plant is far more dangerous to the actual realization of our hopes than the manpower problems.

Produced only from bauxite, as it is now, aluminum production is controlled almost entirely by one company. This company owns the South American deposits and it also owns all of the high grade bauxite deposits in the United States. But when the processes of obtaining alumina from clay are fully developed, there can be no aluminum monopoly. Aluminum-bearing clays exist in many sections of this country and in vast quantities.

They talk about the shortage of manpower as a reason for not constructing the clay process plants. Nonsense. Two years ago we sent an army down to Dutch Guiana to

protect the bauxite mines and miners. The army is still there. We are building ships frantically in order to get soldiers and supplies to the battle fronts, but 200 shiploads of bauxite will be imported from South America this year on armed bauxite boats—and more will come in next year for only recently (October 1) bauxite mining in Arkansas was curtailed 65 per cent! They talk about manpower. The alumina to feed the Northwest aluminum reduction plants, forty per cent of the Nation's output of aluminum for war, must be hauled 2600 miles constantly tying up 650 freight cars and requiring considerable train-crew manpower.

We are throwing the manpower issue right back at them, and in definite language. By not proceeding to develop alumina from clay in the Northwest, they are wasting manpower as follows: An army in Guiana numbering thousands of men; a fleet of bauxite boats requiring hundreds of sailors and gun crews; hundreds of transcontinental bauxite trains. I have, by the way, mentioned these facts not only in discussing the matter "down town," but in a speech on the floor of the House.

There is daily increasing pressure on Congress from the people to readjust prices by law. Price control was authorized for the duration under the Price Control Act passed by Congress, and therefore it is the function of the Office of Price Administration (OPA). That is an administrative agency under the control and immediate direction of the executive department—in other words, the President. He has the final decision under the war emergency setup.

That is the way our system of government works. The Congress writes the basic laws and the executive attends to the administration of them.

There is another plan for meeting the fuel shortage situation in Oregon and Washington coming up, I am told. Once more assurance has been given that fire-wood will not be rationed, but the solid fuels administration insists that the fuel situation in the two states is critical and that something must be done. It is about an even bet that some form of subsidy will be devised. The government "economists" have gone subsidy-minded in a big way.

Fairview News

Students enjoyed a vacation from school Monday when teachers gathered in Coquille for Institute. School started again Tuesday.

Mrs. Robert Holverstott enjoyed a visit with her mother, Mrs. Russell Stillwell, of Portland, last week. Mr. Stillwell went farther south on business and picked up Mrs. Stillwell Saturday on his way home.

Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Kenyon and children returned to their home in Eugene Thursday after attending Mrs. Kenyon's father's funeral.

The funeral of G. B. Dow was held last Wednesday in Schroeder's funeral home in Coquille. Many friends and neighbors from Fairview attended.

Mrs. John Beagle was called to Hillsboro last Wednesday by the serious illness of her father.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Warden returned to their home in Eugene last Sunday, after spending the week here visiting at the Henagin home. Their daughter, Bonnie, accompanied them.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Norris and Harold Stock spent Sunday at the Chas. Holverstott home.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Kelley have moved from the Neal home to their new home in Coquille.

Mr. and Mrs. Perry Neal were at their farm Sunday. They live in Marshfield.

Lorraine Norris has started work in Coquille at Smith Woods plant. She is living in Coquille.

Dennis Buey is still confined to his bed by a severe cold and sore throat. He has been ill about two weeks.

Mary Helen Williams, of Reedsport, niece of Mrs. Harry Lindsay, is spending several days at the Lindsay home. She came in Wednesday of last week.

Carl Hooker, of the U. S. Navy, has been in the valley visiting friends, also visiting in Coquille and Eugene.

Fred and Gordon Dow left last week for Monmouth to visit their uncle and family, Mr. and Mrs. Verne Kenison. Mrs. Dow accompanied them.

Mrs. Dow moved to Coquille last week before her children left for their respective homes after being here for several days with her during the last illness and for the funeral of their father, G. B. Dow.

Visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Andy Parks last Sunday from Marshfield were Mr. and Mrs. Norville Loftin, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Lyons. Mrs. Parks served lunch in the evening for their guests.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Zenor left

Arago News Items

Mrs. Mary Murray (Mary Myers before being married) sister of Mrs. Daisy Clinton of Myrtle Point, and of the late E. J. Myers of Arago, passed away at her home in Tacoma, last Thursday, Oct. 28, after a short illness. She had not been feeling very well, but at the time of her death, she had been so much better and had gone to town that day and had dinner with her daughter, Mrs. Susie Kruse of Portland, who was visiting her mother at the time. They had gone home and Mrs. Murray was taken suddenly ill and passed away in a short time. She had been visiting relatives and friends in Coos county only about a month ago. She was a devoted Christian and one of God's noble women and was loved by all who knew her. She was past 80 years of age and leaves to mourn her passing, her daughter, Mrs. Susie Kruse, of Portland, two sons, Tom Brown, of

Wednesday afternoon of last week for their home in Eugene, after spending a week in the valley visiting at the T. H. Benham and W. J. Wheeler homes. Ralph had the good luck to take back with them a lovely four-point buck, the first deer he had ever killed.

Extension club met Tuesday, Oct. 26, at the Grange Hall. After the business meeting, presided over by the chairman, Myrtle Holverstott, a planned lunch was served. At 1:30, Mrs. Dorothy Bishop talked on "Building Morale." Because of the inability to procure a lawyer, the topic, "Women and Law," will be discussed at a later date. The next meeting, in November, on "Meat Extenders," will be held at the home of the chairman, Myrtle Holverstott. Those present at the last meeting were: Pamela Hatcher, Kathleen Lindsay, Amy Richardson, Myrtle Holverstott, Audra Enlund, Roxy Frye, June Butler, Emma Hall, Ann Lynn, Nadine Wheeler and Dorothy Bishop. Committees appointed were as follows: Membership, Kathleen Lindsay; Finance, Pamela Hatcher; Hospitality, Amy Richardson; War Bonds, Frances Gaslin; Luncheons for the next three months, Emma Hall, Audra Enlund and Nadine Wheeler. The club voted to sponsor one or more 4-H scholarships this year. This will mean a trip to Corvallis next summer for some lucky students. Kathleen Lindsay was appointed to be project leader on "Covering Umbrella." This meeting was held at Bunker Hill and she was present with Dorothy Bishop.

If it is Insurance, see me.—F. R. Bull.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that the undersigned was on the 1st day of November, 1943, duly appointed by the County Court of Coos County, Oregon, as Administrator of the Estate of Leona E. Foley, deceased; and all persons having claims against said Estate are hereby required to present them to me, with proper vouchers attached and duly verified, at my office in Coquille, Oregon, within six months from date of this notice.
Dated and published first time Nov. 4, 1943.
4215 O. C. Sanford, Administrator.

Local REA System Observes Anniversary

The Coos Electric Cooperative, Coquille, this week enters its fourth year of supplying electric service to farmers and other rural consumers in this area.

Citing the progress of the Cooperative since its lines were first energized on November 4, 1940, Manager R. J. Connarn recalled the system had only 232 consumers at the end of its first month of operation. Today the Cooperative furnishes electric service to 822 consumers along 202 miles of distribution lines in Coos and Curry counties.

Farm members of the Cooperative have come to depend more and more on electric equipment to save labor and increase production of such vital foods as milk, eggs, poultry and meats, Mr. Connarn said. The 314 farms served by the Cooperative consumed an average of 79 kilowatt hours in August as compared with 74 KWH a year ago.

The Cooperative encourages its members to make the best possible use of existing electrical equipment and to build home-made devices. Mr. Connarn said. The Cooperative has plans for several home-made appliances such as a chick brooder and fruit and vegetable dehydrator which require few critical materials. Many of the electric devices saving a substantial amount of labor are in the farm home, including water systems, washing machines, ranges, refrigerators and irons.

The Cooperative's program got underway on November 6, 1939 when the

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REA allocated \$117,500 of its first loan to the system. Construction started after a contract had been let on May 16, 1940, for the building of 84 miles of line at a cost of \$72,866. REA has advanced the Cooperative a total of \$261,505 on its construction allotments as of September 30, 1943.

Card of Thanks
We wish to extend to our friends, to the members of the Christian church and of the W. R. C. our sincere thanks for their kindness and sympathy and for the flowers at the service held for our mother, Mrs. A. N. Foley.

Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Haynes and sons, Capt and Mrs. L. E. Haynes and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Patterson, Mr. and Mrs. Dewey Brown and children.

Insurance Specialist, F. R. Bull.

Marriage Licenses

Oct. 30—Harold Ronning, of Roseburg, and Bernice Flolo, of Klamath Falls.
Nov. 2—Glen Gilbert and Thorel M. Hollenbeck, both of Coquille.
Nov. 3—Harold J. Ross, of Powers, and Eillian Y. Endicott, of Myrtle Point.

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